

News From Northcliffe.  
An Able Correspondent.  
Kings Rarely Suicides.  
"Captain Kidd Day."

By ARTHUR BRISBANE.  
(Copyright, 1920.)  
Lord Northcliffe, of the London Times, back from Morocco, whither he went for his health and "for to see," writes of work that France is doing in the new France across the Mediterranean. Says he:

"French Morocco is about the same size as France, has a population of eight million, and was at one time the granary of Europe—and will be again. The French have made some three thousand miles of splendid roads, so that you can ride from Casa Blanca to Fez on a road as good as the Boston post road or London to York. At the same time they have left Fez and Morocco City absolutely untouched, and there one can sleep at life as it was going on a thousand years ago."

Of his own country, Northcliffe writes:

"Things in this country go well. The only thing that is wrong is the frightful extravagance of the government departments that arose with the war."

"We are busy earning money with which to pay our debts. There is a good deal of misunderstanding in the United States because they do not distinguish between Great Britain and Europe. We are in no need of any kind of help here."

About Anglo-American matters Northcliffe writes:

"The picture of Great Britain presented by many American newspapers is a grotesque distortion and accounts for a great deal of the business disappointments that Americans are meeting with here and in Europe generally."

"From one end of the Mediterranean to the other I hear of American shipping muddles. Shipping is as complicated a business as that of running a newspaper. It is just as difficult to 'break into' the Mediterranean as it is to 'break into' Fleet Street or Park Row."

Intelligent man is Lord Northcliffe; he proved it, when he saw the war coming and announced it two years before it started. And he is a close student of many different things. When he was here in 1913, bringing Darwin's grandson along for company, he could tell you which was the best printed trade newspaper in the United States and why, and he told, a year before anybody else told it, that the French had the best artillery in Europe.

His criticism of "American shipping muddles" is welcome. It should inspire Americans to break into shipping, however difficult it may be. Northcliffe certainly "broke into Fleet Street"—why not the United States "into the Mediterranean?"

A newspaper in Rome prints news, probably false, about the old Austrian Emperor committing suicide by hanging. Kings do not kill themselves, although their subjects occasionally do the work for them.

One old King of Bohemia, blind, with his horse chained to the horses of two knights, rode into the thick of battle, slaying with his sword until killed. But that wasn't suicide; it was remarkable sporting instinct in an old fighter. Henry II of England, finding that his own son had conspired against him, cried: "I care no more for myself or for the world. Shame, shame, on a conquered king," and turning his face to the wall, died. But he didn't kill himself.

Kings in hard luck saw wood and write about themselves like William of Hohenzollern; they retire to a monastery like the great Charles V. But they rarely commit suicide, for a king, as long as he lives, is like a gambler who still has money left to bet. He always has the chance of turning fortune in his way. Gamblers kill themselves only when the last dollar is gone, and a king can never be sure, while he lives, that he has played his last card.

Anything new is pleasing. The North Dakota Leader, organ of the Farmers' Non-Partisan League, suggests a celebration of "Captain Kidd Day." Captain Kidd, the pirate, is much out of date, according to the North Dakota Leader. His old-fashioned method was to run up the black flag with the skull and cross bones when he meant to rob anybody. His descendants have come ashore and occupy snug berths in frontier offices. Whenever they plan to rob anybody they first run up the Stars and Stripes and make a little speech about patriotism. The North Dakota Leader demands that on "Captain Kidd Day" all his descendants shall honor his memory by hanging out a black flag with skull and crossbones, thus identifying themselves for the public benefit. It is an interesting suggestion at least.

Professor Einstein, learned gentleman, supposed to have put "E=mc<sup>2</sup>" and "but into the Newtonian theory of gravitation," tells you not to be too much influenced by the fact that light rays passing by the sun "are subject to curvature." He also says, which will disappoint many small boys, that Euclid, celebrated Greek gentleman, author of so many theorems and so many tears, is not necessarily dethroned. It would probably be impossible for Professor Einstein to realize how many there are of Americans well to do that do not in the least care what happens to light rays as they pass the sun.

# CARRANZA IS KILLED IN BATTLE

## GOLD HUNT LET BERGDOLL OUT

Permitted to Seek Cache by Adjutant General, Says Secretary Baker.

## WAR DEPT. STARTS INQUIRY

General Bullard Heads Chase of Fugitive Slacker—No Clue To Whereabouts.

Grover C. Bergdoll, serving a five-year sentence for evading the draft law, was permitted to leave prison in order to seek a large sum of money which he had secreted in a place known only to himself, according to a statement made by Secretary of War Baker today.

Bergdoll was on his way to seek this money when he made his escape.

## Permission From Adjutant General.

It was upon request of Bergdoll's counsel and upon authority of the adjutant general that Bergdoll was permitted to leave prison, the Secretary of War announced.

The statement of the Secretary of War follows:

"The escape of Bergdoll was brought to my attention yesterday afternoon by General Harris, the adjutant general, shortly after I discovered I had no previous knowledge of any mission, confidential or otherwise, on Bergdoll's part, and did not know that he had been brought from the prison at Governor's Island, or that there was any intention of bringing him."

"After his escape I was informed that General Ansell and Colonel Bailey, counsel for Bergdoll, some days ago represented to the adjutant general that Bergdoll, prior to his arrest, had secreted a large sum of money in a place known only to himself and had made application to have Bergdoll brought under guard, and accompanied by his lawyers, to get the money."

"This arrangement was authorized by the adjutant general and the authorities at Governor's Island were notified. Colonel Hunt at Governor's Island detailed a guard to take Bergdoll to North Philadelphia, at which place he was to be met by his attorneys, and his party was then to proceed to the place where the money was supposed to be hidden."

Baker Directs Investigation. "The details of his escape are variously reported. As soon as the matter was brought to my attention I directed an immediate and thorough investigation of the entire matter and urged that every effort be made to capture the fugitive."

Every effort will be made by the

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## NAME TRAFFIC MEN TO CLEAR UP JAM

Commissioner Aitchison Authorizes Local Committee to End Congestion.

Naming of traffic committees, consisting of railroad officials and shipper representatives, is under way today, as a co-operative measure to aid in clearing up railroad congestion. The car service committees are being appointed in response to telegrams dispatched by the Interstate Commerce Commission, appealing for unity of action by operating officers and the shipping public.

Commissioner Aitchison, in charge of the rail situation, in messages authorizing the immediate appointment of such local committees, stated that among the objects to be obtained were prompt loading and unloading, loading of cars to capacity, and placement of cars to meet actual necessities.

On committees to be appointed at every important terminal there will be a representative from the railroads, an agent of the Interstate Commerce Commission, and a member of the International Traffic League, a shipping organization.

Though still badly handicapped by bad labor situations in a score of centers, some slight improvement was noted today in reports to the commission.

The labor situation is more serious than rail officials are willing to admit, and reports indicate seriously crippled operations on some of the lines. These situations are attributed almost wholly to the recent switchmen's strike.

JOHN McHENRY, boy slayer, photographed today in warden's office at the District jail, where he told of his plans to break out with the aid of a saw made out of a trench mirror, and a hardwood club, found in his cell. He scouts the idea that he was insane when he killed James Mulcare and Detective Armstrong.



## Boy Slayer Is Foiled In Attempt To Free Prisoners In D. C. Jail

What is believed to have been a daring plot of prisoners to escape from the District jail has been foiled by Superintendent Charles C. Foster and W. L. Peake, warden of the prison.

John McHenry, the youth who last December 14 shot and killed Wallace Mulcare, automobile accessories dealer, and Detective Sergeant James E. Armstrong, is said to have been one of the ringleaders of the conspiracy.

Hearing rumors of the contemplated jail delivery, Superintendent Foster made a search of McHenry's cell and found secreted a steel trench mirror, which had been sharpened to a keen edge; a stout oak stick, and part of a spoon handle which also had been sharpened to resemble an improvised dagger.

Although admitting this morning that he had been watching for the opportunity to escape from the jail, McHenry denied that he had secreted the mirror and other articles in his cell.

Superintendent Foster, in connection with the uncovering of the jail delivery plot, learned that McHenry had sent a letter to a Washington woman telling of his having been punished by the warden of the prison. McHenry admitted today having had the letter written, but he would not say by whom and to whom the note was sent or how he managed to have it mailed. Superintendent Foster, however, believes the letter was mailed by a prisoner whose term expired on Friday.

## Boy Denies Hiding Weapons.

Discovery of the plot of McHenry and others to escape from the jail was made on Thursday when Superintendent Foster learned that the boy slayer had been seen sharpening the edge of the steel trench mirror. It is the opinion of Superintendent Foster that McHenry, said to be a shrewd, calculating youth, had planned to make an improvised hatchet out of the club and steel mirror to be used should guards attempt to frustrate his escape.

"I did not get the club or the trench mirror," McHenry stated this morning, "they must have been placed in my cell by the prisoner who occupied it before I was confined in it."

## Silent on Note.

Following the discovery of the club and mirror, McHenry was confined in a cell in an isolated section of the prison, but he was not cuffed up on his toes as he stated in the letter sent to the Washington woman. When first asked about the letter, McHenry denied having written it. Later, he said that another prisoner had written the note and had signed his name. He refused to further discuss the letter.

McHenry has been morose and defiant, when questioned by Superintendent Foster, refusing to answer questions other than in an evasive manner. When seen today in Superintendent Foster's office at the jail, McHenry blamed his downfall on an association as a boy with older youths. He refused to tell anything about the many crimes he was a party to, except the shooting of Mr. Mulcare and Detective Armstrong.

## Shows No Emotion.

"When I came to Washington I was 'broke,' said McHenry. 'I needed money and went to Mulcare's store. I had no intention of killing him. When I demanded money, he asked that I not shoot him. But as he reached to the cash drawer he pulled a pistol and fired at me. I then fired at him, running out of the store. 'I did not know I had killed him.' 'Why did you shoot Detective Armstrong?' he was asked. 'Well, when I went to Union Station I saw Armstrong come toward me. I did not know he was a detective and when he started toward me I shot him.'"

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## LEAGUE WON'T END WARFARE

—Lord Cecil  
Head of Executive Committee Admits Present Draft Is Inefficient.

## BRITISH DISTRUST GROWS

England Failed to Get Everything Desired in Terms of Covenant.

## WILSON AGREES TO ARBITRATION

PARIS, May 22.—President Wilson has consented to arbitrate the frontiers of Armenia, Hugh Wallace, the United States ambassador to France, informed the council of ambassadors today.

By EARL C. REEVES.  
International News Service.

LONDON, May 22.—An ardent plea for the League of Nations, in which he pointed out "the growing distrust of the British government," both at home and abroad, was made today by Lord Robert Cecil, M. P., chairman of the executive committee of the league.

## Cannot Prevent War.

Lord Robert, who has been one of the strongest European supporters of the League of Nations since the idea took form in the peace conference, declared that the present League of Nations is not firm behind the proposal for a society of nations, even though the workers did not succeed in getting everything they wanted into the covenant.

The statesman admitted that the league of nations could not prevent war under present conditions, but he said that the machinery should have been utilized in an effort to prevent the present hostilities between Russia and Poland. He called upon the British government to put the strength of the empire behind the league and thus "lead the world."

## Present Form Inefficient.

Lord Robert's statement, which was made exclusively to the International News Service, follows:

"I am profoundly convinced that the present league of nations is quite ineffective for the purpose for which it was formed, namely, the prevention of war. But that does not mean that it cannot be made effective. I think it could be."

"But it must be worked out and enforced by people who believe in it."

"Failure to utilize the machinery of the league for the prevention of hostilities between Poland and Bolshevik Russia was most serious, and I see no reason why the league machinery should not have been put to its proper use this spring. It may well be taken up on Page 2, Column 1."

## SUGAR SHORTAGE END IS IN SIGHT

Curtailment of Supplies for Non-Essential Uses Expected To Cut Prices.

Speedy relief in the country's sugar situation, both as to price and quantity, is looked for by the Department of Justice.

Plans for the voluntary rationing of sugar by importers and refiners to essential industries and the curtailment of this commodity to candy manufacturers and other non-essential industries are being formulated by the department as a result of the conference held yesterday between Attorney General Palmer and a number of the country's largest sugar importers.

Armin W. Riley, special assistant to the Attorney General, will meet in New York Monday with the refiners and importers for the purpose of working out a plan whereby the sugar will be diverted from non-essential to essential uses. By doing this it is hoped that enough sugar will be placed at the disposal of the public to take care of its needs.

Announcement was also made by Attorney General Palmer that the refiners and importers had turned over all records to the Department of Justice, excepting the 1920 sugar crop. Attorney General Palmer also held a conference with a number of large wholesale grocers yesterday in regard to the margin of profit to be made on sugar sales. The grocers declared that they were satisfied with a margin of 1 cent a pound, allowed by the department.

If you contemplate a trip to New York, the Washington Times Hotel Bureau will, without charge, reserve rooms for you. Call Main 5256.

## BONILLAS AND CABRERA ALSO REPORTED SLAIN IN MOUNTAIN SKIRMISH

MEXICO CITY, May 22.—Venustiano Carranza, the fugitive president of Mexico, and six of his followers have been killed in a skirmish with revolutionary troops under Gen. Rodolfo Herrera, a rebel leader, near Tlaxcoapan, in the southern part of the State of Hidalgo, according to officially confirmed advices received by Gen. Alvaro Obregon today.

It is believed that Ygnacio Bonillas, former Mexican ambassador to the United States, who fled from Mexico City with Carranza, was among the others slain.

## Taking Body to Capital.

The revolutionary administration was advised that Carranza's body was being brought to this city.

Herrera was formerly leader of a rebel faction known as Pelicistas. He surrendered to the government several months ago, while Carranza was still in power. Several columns of Obregonista troops are now reported to be in pursuit of Herrera.

While reports as to the skirmish near Tlaxcoapan differed as to details, all agreed that Carranza had been killed. According to one report, all the persons in Carranza's immediate party were put to death.

## VILLA HOLDS BRITON FOR RANSOM

George Miller, a British subject, superintendent of the Alvarado Mining Company at Parral, Chihuahua, is being held for \$50,000 ransom by General Villa, according to a dispatch to the State Department.

## RULE GRANTED TO RUSH BONUS BILL

Committee Limits Debate to Five Hours and Forbids Amendments.

The House Rules Committee today, by a party vote, agreed to report a special rule for the consideration of legislation providing a bonus for men who served in the world war, which would prevent amendment to the bill in the House and would limit debate to five hours.

The action of the Rules Committee was opposed by Congressmen Treadway, Republican, of Massachusetts, and Representative Carner, Democrat, of Texas.

## NIGHTMARE IS HELD NO GROUND FOR DIVORCE

Chicago Woman Must Submit to Choking By Dreaming Husband, Court Decides.

CHICAGO, May 22.—Judge Jesse Holdom in dismissing a divorce case in the circuit court has handed down a legal opinion of a nightmare. Mrs. Ellen Harris, in suing her husband, William A. Harris, president of the Union Interior Finish Company, testified that one night while she was asleep her husband grabbed her by the throat "and almost killed me."

It wasn't until Mr. Harris' attorneys began to cross-examine her that Mrs. Harris recalled that the choking had been an incident of one of her husband's nightmares and that he did not get awake until after he had choked her for ten minutes.

"That's not cruelty," said the judge, "that's a nightmare and cannot be used." Other charges were denied by Harris, and the suit was dismissed.

## 3 KILLED, 10 WOUNDED IN HAMBURG RIOTING

BERLIN, May 22.—Three persons were killed and ten wounded in rioting at Hamburg on Thursday, when Sicherheitswehr troops fired on workmen and Communists who were staging a demonstration.

The fatalities occurred after many stores had been plundered.